

NEW YORK HERALD.
JAMES GORDON BENNETT,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.
OFFICE N. W. CORNER OF FULTON AND NASSAU STS.
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AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.
BROADWAY THEATRE, Broadway, near Broome street.—MARTHA.
WOODS THEATRE, Broadway, opposite the St. Nicholas Hotel.—THE ELVES—NAN THE GOOD FOR NOTHING. Matinee at 2 o'clock.
GEORGE CHRISTY'S OLD SCHOOL OF MINSTRELS, BROADWAY, between 10th and 11th streets.—THE ELVES—NAN THE GOOD FOR NOTHING. Matinee at 2 o'clock.
SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS, 535 Broadway, opposite Metropolitan Hotel.—EMERSON SINGERS, DANCERS, &c.—THE OTTAWA BROTHERS.
TORY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE, 231 Bowery.—STREET SINGERS, DANCERS, &c.—THE OTTAWA BROTHERS.
BRYANT'S MINSTRELS, Mechanics' Hall, 472 Broadway.—NANO GONCALVES, DANCERS, &c.—LAS MIRA, AND OTHERS.
ROBERT'S OPERA HOUSE, Brooklyn.—ETHELTON MINSTRELS.—BROADWAY, between 10th and 11th streets.—THE ELVES—NAN THE GOOD FOR NOTHING. Matinee at 2 o'clock.
BROOKLYN ATHLETIC.—ROBERT HELLER, THE GREAT CONQUEROR.
NEW YORK MUSEUM OF ANATOMY, 61 Broadway.—Open from 10 A. M. till 10 P. M.
NATIONAL ACADEMY OF DESIGN, Corner of Twenty-third street and Fourth avenue.—Exhibition of Original Works by Living Artists.

TRIPLE SHEET.

New York, Wednesday, May 2, 1866.

THE NEWS.

BOMBARDMENT OF VALPARAISO.

The steamship Costa Rica, Captain Bradbury, arrived at this port yesterday, from Aspinwall on the 23d ult., bringing us most important intelligence from the South Pacific.
Our special correspondent at Valparaiso sends us full and complete information of the last and most atrocious act of the Spanish naval commander in the Pacific, Senor Mendez Nuñez, committed under orders from his government—viz., the bombardment of the city of Valparaiso and destruction of twenty million dollars' worth of property, principally that of foreigners.

On the 27th of March Commodore Nuñez informed the authorities that on the 31st he should bombard the city unless the terms of his notice were complied with, and gave four days' notice in order that the sick, women, children and non-combatants could be removed from danger. Every effort was made by General Kilpatrick and Commodore Rodgers to avert the coming storm and save the doomed city; in fact, the latter is said to have offered to interfere if the English Admiral would do the same; but the latter declined, as did the French naval commander. All efforts were unavailing, and at eight o'clock on the morning of the 31st of March the English and American squadrons moved out of the line of fire to a position on the other side of the bay. Shortly before nine the Spanish ships Villa de Madrid, Blanca, Resolución and Venezuela moved into the position within point blank range of the city, the Numanca remaining outside, and the Berenguela with the prizes and storeships. The Villa de Madrid and Blanca were opposite the Custom House; the Resolución opposite the railway station, and the Venezuela close into the beach, to select smaller marks. At nine A. M. the Blanca opened fire, and immediately the other three vessels followed her example, neither the Numanca nor Berenguela taking part in the bombardment. About ten A. M. a shell from the Venezuela set fire to a building, and the flames soon spread with rapidity. This vessel kept up a steady and very accurate fire upon the same spot, and thus prevented the conflagration from being extinguished. About the same time the Custom House took fire, and it and all the government buildings in the vicinity, including the bonded warehouses, were, with their contents, entirely destroyed. At a little after noon the Numanca made signal "cesse firing," when the bombardment ended.

It is well understood that the bombardment of Valparaiso is but the commencement, that Guayaquil, Callao, Callao and all accessible points are to have their share, and that the orders of the Spanish commander are to do all the damage he can with the force at his disposal.

THE PLATE WAR.

The steamship South America, from Rio Janeiro, on the 3d of April, arrived at this port yesterday morning, after a very rapid passage—less than nine days by some hours. The news by the Scotia is two days later. Germany was again shadowed by the war cloud. It is said that the Emperor Francis Joseph had himself recommended to the Austrian Cabinet the immediate suspension of diplomatic relations with Prussia, and that the recommendation was adopted. England, France and Italy were again alarmed at the prospect of war. Italy was preparing for a great naval demonstration. The London Times, which first announced the exciting news, hoped, notwithstanding, that peace would still be preserved.

EUROPE.

The debate on the English Reform bill stood adjourned in the Commons to the 22d of April.
Mr. George Peabody, the American banker, arrived in the Scotia. He was the recipient of grateful notices from the English people—clergy, mercantile and moneyed—to the moment of his embarkation at Liverpool.
Head Centre Stephens was entertained at a banquet at the residence of the Marquis de Boleyn in Paris.
General Prim had left Paris for Italy.

CONGRESS.

In the Senate yesterday a petition from the citizens of Staunton, Va., was read, asking the return of money to that place for the protection of loyal citizens. A letter from Wade Hampton, denying the charge of burning Columbia, S. C., was read; but the Senate refused to receive or consider it. In the discussion on the amendment to the Post Office Appropriation bill Mr. Henderson remarked that if the President attempted to carry out the policy proposed by Garrett Davis the result would be the same as that between King Charles and the Parliament. The Conference Committee on the Habeas Corpus bill made a report, which was agreed to, and the bill goes to the President.

THE CITY.

But three new cases of cholera occurred on Monday among the passengers of the steamer Virginia, and there were all of a very mild form. No additional deaths had taken place on board the Falcon, and the patients now under treatment in the hospital, numbering one hundred and one, were doing well at the last accounts. Permission will be granted to the steamer England and her passengers, also to the cabin passengers of the Virginia, to come up to the city either to-day or to-morrow, but before doing so the vessel and effects of the passengers will be subjected to a thorough and effectual fumigation.
In the United States Commissioner's Court yesterday, before Commissioner Osborn, a case came up in which John Lambert was charged with stealing property on board the California steamer Oregon worth \$20,000. The defendant was arrested by Superintendent Kennedy, who received a telegram from California informing him of the prisoner's arrival here. Edmon Blackman, the prisoner's counsel, stated that the prisoner was three weeks incarcerated without being allowed communication with any one, and only discharged by a habeas corpus obtained from the Recorder. He charged the Superintendent with having \$4,500 of the prisoner's money, and asked for an early examination. The case was not down for twelve o'clock to-morrow.

THE CITY.

The Board of Health met yesterday. Reports from the Sanitary Committee referring to the proposed interference of the Board in behalf of the Quarantine Commission's request to obtain a proper place on shore for well passengers, on the nuisance, and other subjects of interest, were submitted.
The Board of Excise met yesterday, when resolutions were introduced by Mr. Burdett to create a third and fourth class license, at the rate of thirty and fifty dollars, for apothecaries, grocers and beer retailers. These resolutions were lost, and the Board refused to grant licenses to these classes. A statement was submitted from which it appeared that during yesterday three hundred and forty-eight first class licenses and forty-eight of the second class were granted by the Board.

Last night the New York Liquor Dealers' Society held another meeting, when a committee appointed at a previous meeting submitted a report of a conference with the Board of Excise, in reference to the action taken by that Board regarding grocers. The members of the society were advised to go on with their business as usual until otherwise notified.

At a meeting of the New York Historical Society, held at their hall last night, a paper on America was read by Mr. Tickerman, and a miniature portrait, modeled from bullets picked up at one of the various river forts, was presented to the society by General Crawford, through General De Poyster.

The rainy weather that prevailed in this city last night was prevalent also in Philadelphia and Washington. In Baltimore it culminated in a severe hailstorm, and in Buffalo was varied with a light fall of snow.

The case of John Piggott, charged with attempting to pass counterfeit fractional currency, was concluded yesterday before Commissioner Betts. The defendant was held for trial in default of \$1,000 bail.

A case came up yesterday in the United States District Court in which Martin Quirk, alias Martin Jones, was charged with passing a counterfeit twenty dollar Treasury note. The examination of the case was postponed till this morning.

Yesterday was moving day in New York, and notwithstanding the continuous fall of a drizzle, uncomfortable rain, the citizens celebrated the anniversary with considerable zeal and industry.

Thomas M. Doyle was yesterday elected Chief Engineer of the Fire Department of Williamsburg.

A fire took place in Cherry street on Monday night in a lumber yard. Loss about thirteen hundred dollars.

The brick building on the corner of Front and Fulton streets, Brooklyn, was discovered to be on fire yesterday afternoon, but prompt action prevented a serious conflagration.

An unknown woman, supposed to be German, committed suicide by drowning herself in the lake at the Park on Monday afternoon.

The wife of Julius Malson, living on First avenue, between Eighty-fourth and Eighty-fifth streets, has been missing since last Thursday, and yesterday, on the representations of neighbors, Malson was granted to await an investigation of the cause of her disappearance.

The popular steamer North Castle, Captain R. Adams, will sail from pier No. 4 North river, at three P. M. to-day, for Havana direct. The mail will close at the Post Office at half-past one P. M.

The fine iron steamship Lodona, Captain Boyer, will sail to-morrow, Thursday, at two P. M., for Galveston, Texas, from pier 23 East River. The Lodona has been well fitted up for the accommodation of passengers and for the delivery of freight in good order, and since the opening of the new line business has gradually increased between the two sections of country.

The stock market opened firm, became dull and closed moderately strong at a slight advance yesterday. Governments were dull and rather heavy. Gold opened at 125 1/2 and closed at 126 1/4 %.

There was not much life in commercial circles yesterday, and not a great deal of business was done either in domestic or foreign goods. The quotations in gold and silver prices of most kinds of merchandise, and values in many cases were merely nominal.

The market for beef cattle was firmer at the opening and prices advanced 1/4 to 1/2 c. per pound, but closed flat, with the advance lost. Prices varied from 12c. to 17c. a lb.; the latter an extreme rate, and the average about 15c. All the cattle were sold. Milch cows were dull and irregular. Prices varied from \$30 to \$60. Veals were irregular, varying all the way from 5c. to 12c. Sheep and lambs were active at from \$4 to \$10. Hogs were active at 10c. to 10 1/2 c. The total receipts were 5,369 hogs, 31 cows, 2,178 veals, 13,036 sheep and lambs, 9,030 hogs.

MISCELLANEOUS.

An important meeting of the Cabinet was held yesterday, all the members present except Secretary Harlan declaring themselves opposed to the Committee's scheme of reconstruction and decidedly in favor of the President's policy as regards the admission of loyal representatives from the Southern States. Mr. Speed was the only member absent, he being in Kentucky on a visit. Mr. Harlan expressed no opinion.

The President sent a message to the House yesterday, enclosing a letter from Secretary Seward, giving the result of his examination of various propositions from British holders of the rebel cotton bonds for an adjustment to the satisfaction of the United States. The Secretary says that none of them are entitled to consideration.

Our correspondent with the mission of General Steedman and Fullerton through the South, writes from Newbern, N. C., an interesting letter relative to the social condition of the freedmen in North Carolina. He states that they are generally at work and that nothing will disturb the satisfactory adjustment of the labor market in that State but ill-advised agitation on the subject of social equality. He gives also some interesting details of the outrages practiced on the freedmen by agents of the Bureau.

To-day the recently elected Governors of Rhode Island and Connecticut are to be inaugurated—the one at Newport and the other at New Haven. The customary election parade will take place in each city.

The funeral of Rev. Father Kelly, late pastor of St. Peter's Catholic church in Jersey City, took place yesterday afternoon.

The Woodstock and Catskill mountains are reported to have been on fire on Sunday, over five thousand acres having been swept by the flames.

A large fire in Thorold, C. W., on Sunday afternoon destroyed thirty-three shops and a large number of out-buildings. Nearly the whole of the two principal streets in the city are destroyed, and forty or fifty families rendered homeless.

A fire at Grand Rapids, Mich., yesterday, destroyed the Union Hotel and four other buildings. Loss estimated at one hundred thousand dollars.

A fire occurred in Boston yesterday afternoon which destroyed two government bonded warehouses and about five thousand hogsheads of sugar and molasses. The loss is estimated at two hundred thousand dollars.

Henry C. Wheeler, of New York City, President of the Atchafalpa and Pike's Peak Railroad Company, was arrested yesterday on the steamship Asia, at Boston, on a writ issued by the company, who claim that he is about decamping with two hundred thousand dollars worth of bonds belonging to them.

The nineteenth annual session of the American Medical Association commenced in Baltimore on the 1st inst. There were some two hundred delegates present.

The inauguration of Governor Hawley at New Haven takes place to-day.

Samuel Withers, alias Jack Cooper, was executed at Ravenna, Ohio, on the 27th ult., for the murder of John Rodesburg. He mounted the scaffold with a cigar in his mouth, made his confession in a rambling, brawling speech, and adjured the knot himself.

STEVENS ON THE REBELS—PROSCRIPTION, CONFISCATION AND DESTRUCTION.

The terrible old man of Pennsylvania who has been the whipper-in of the present revolutionary and weak Congress has again brought forth his ranting of vindictive legislation against the helpless ex-rebels. On Monday he offered in the House of Representatives a substitute for the bill he introduced last December to confiscate the property of these people. The character and general features of the original bill and the substitute are the same. The confiscation clause is preceded by and mixed up with other matters, but that is the gist of the proposed law. It provides for doubling the pensions of those who were made prisoners by the casualties of the late war. This, of course, is a tempting bait for the soldiers to swallow the iniquitous proposition for seizing all the property of the Southerners. It adroitly appeals to the selfish interests of a large and influential body of citizens in order to disguise or cover up the injustice and cruelty of the measure. The bill provides also for paying the damages done to loyal men by the rebel government and rebel raiders. This, too, is intended, doubtless, to bring to the support of the bill a large class of claimants. But the prime motive for the clause, probably, may be found in the desire of Mr. Stevens and other Pennsylvania patriots to put their hands into the Treasury. Mr. Stevens had a foundry destroyed somewhere in the neighborhood of Gettysburg, we believe, by the rebel raiders, and his constituents lost horses, cattle and other things. No doubt Mr. Stevens and his Pennsylvania friends and neighbors could make out a nice little account for damages. A great many others out of Pennsylvania could do the same. It may be seen from this bill that Mr. Stevens is not the pure, disinterested patriot, after all, that some people have supposed him to be. The motive for making such a sweeping confiscation of the property of the Southerners as proposed is infamous. The mere proposition is a disgrace to the Congress which could listen to it. We seem to be carried back to uncivilized ages or to the horrible times of the French revolution. Let us hope for the credit of the country and the age that this bill will never come up again.

But in addition to doubling the pensions of pensioners and paying war claims out of the confiscated property, it is proposed to distribute the lands among the late slaves of the South and to erect buildings for them. That is, in reality, to turn over the whole of that magnificent productive country, the largest and best portion of the American continent, to an inferior and ignorant race, to reduce it to the condition of Jamaica or worse, to drive out or reduce to an inferior position to the blacks the people of our own race and blood—our relatives—the white man and the highest type of humanity. The proposition is perfectly monstrous, and it is difficult to conceive of any one making it but a crazy, vindictive cynic. Only let us imagine the state of things if such a measure could be carried out, though we have not the remotest idea of it. Eight millions of the elevated white race, and nearly four millions of negroes, the lowest in the scale of humanity, occupying the country! The lands and other property of the whites confiscated and the lands given to the negroes, with buildings erected thereon at the expense of the government and from the proceeds of the confiscated property! Nearly all the whites disfranchised and proscribed and the negroes enfranchised. That is precisely the state of things intended to be brought about by Mr. Stevens and his radical friends in Congress. Thereafter has been in modern times, if ever, such a tremendous revolution; no, not even in France, for although the sweeping confiscation measures of the Convention placed the landed property in other hands it did not go to negroes, but to Frenchmen, to people of the same race and nation. The bill in principle and detail is so outrageous and preposterous that we should not think of referring to it seriously did we not believe that the radical party, who have the power in Congress, are capable of doing almost anything, however monstrous. Still we hope the more moderate and conservative men in the national legislature will be wise enough and have strength enough to prevent Mr. Stevens' monstrous ranting from being revived again.

THE DECLINE OF CHOLERA.—It is a pleasant duty to report that the Asiatic cholera which has for some weeks been lingering on the infected vessels in the Lower Bay is gradually decreasing, and the prospect of the disease approaching the city is therefore very dim. We have from the beginning disapproved the idea of panic in connection with a coming epidemic, and the turn which affairs have taken at Quarantine strengthens the opinion that there is no necessity for any alarm. It does not follow that because cases of cholera can be found on board vessels from foreign ports, lying in the harbor, the disease should desolate the city. The precautions taken so far have protected us from this calamity; but although the reports from Quarantine are highly favorable, the Health Commissioners should not relax their exertions on that account. We do not anticipate a visit of this fearful scourge, but at the same time it is well to be prepared. The sanitary condition of the city depends a good deal upon the precautionary measures taken by individuals in keeping their houses clean, in observing rules as to diet, abstinence from the use of unripe fruit, raw vegetables and other provocatives of sickness incident to early summer. The best preventive of epidemic disease is a good condition of the constitution. An eminent physician long resident in Constantinople, where Asiatic cholera is almost always present, recently stated that a man in perfect health was no more likely to die of cholera than to be killed by a stroke from a comet. The necessity of attending to one's general health in order to escape epidemic diseases is thus established.

Last summer and fall, when the cholera was working its way northward and westward from the south of Europe and the shores of the Mediterranean, a few cases occurred in the vicinity of London, but it did not take hold of that great city with its population of over two millions. The sanitary condition of London is not superior to that of New York—rather the contrary; therefore we are not disposed to regard the existence of cholera on shipboard in the Lower Bay as an omen that we shall be visited with it in this city. However, we should not be betrayed by a too sanguine sense of security into neglecting those sanitary measures which, if properly adopted, will secure us immunity from the scourge.

BOMBARDMENT OF VALPARAISO—CRIMINAL CONDUCT OF THE SPANISH, FRENCH AND ENGLISH AUTHORITIES.

We announced on the 13th ult. that on the 17th of March the Spanish government sent orders to Admiral Nuñez, commanding the Spanish fleet blockading Valparaiso, to bombard that city, and then, withdrawing to Montevideo, abandon as fruitless the war against the allied republics of South America.

The first part of this atrocious programme has been carried out. Valparaiso was bombarded on the 31st of March for three hours with great fury and with considerable loss of life and property. Women and children as well as soldiers were killed, and churches and hospitals as well as public buildings were burned. The citizens could not reply to the fire of the fleet in consequence of the absence of all defenses to their city. The treacherous conduct of the Spanish Admiral appears to have been totally unwarrantable and highly criminal, and must lessen him and his government in the eyes of the civilized world.

Not less criminal, however, was the conduct of the French and English Admirals and Consuls at Valparaiso, in whose power it was to prevent the wanton destruction of the property in the city. Commodore Rodgers, of the United States fleet, tendered them his hearty co-operation in any efforts to prevent, by force, if necessary, the commission of the outrage contemplated by the Spanish Admiral; but co-operation was not only declined, but the French and British Admirals refused to interfere even to protect the property of French and English residents, who were forced to call upon Commodore Rodgers for protection. The commendable conduct of this officer and the exertions of our Minister, General Kilpatrick, to prevent the outrage will endure them to their country and to all civilized nations, and remain forever a reproach to those who so criminally refused to aid them in preserving the peace.

The Late Election in France—The Empire Before the People.

The people of a province of France recently had an opportunity to express their thoughts and feelings in relation to the Emperor Napoleon and his government. A representative of the Department of Bas-Rhin was to be chosen. There was a government candidate and an opposition candidate, and the government candidate was elected by an immense majority, receiving rather more than double the number of votes cast for his adversary. This expression of universal suffrage is remarkable, significant, as it is of the real views of France, of the masses of the people taken in any given part of the country.

His bold faith in his hold upon the people, the confidence with which he accepts any appeal to the nation, his readiness at all times to carry his case to the polling places, is one of the greatest facts in the Emperor's history. From whatever cause it arises, whether it be the old faith in his name or the result of a deeper insight into the character of the people, it is unquestionable that this readiness to submit his government to the popular verdict is an important element of its strength. It frees it from any necessity to consider the embarrassments that factious opposition would put in its way. It lifts it far above the whole atmosphere of party discussion and quarrel. No party can even have a base of operations against the government or get the least foothold in public esteem; for the party that promises most can offer nothing more delusive or attractive than an appeal to the people, and the government is ready for that at any time, and makes it constantly. Thus the government is not trammelled by the necessity of trimming close to any party breeze. It may choose its own course boldly, confidently, only keeping in view the great mass and body of the people, watching the temper and tone of the nation. So long as it is sure of these it may despise all else, and so long as he can get such verdicts as this from the Bas-Rhin the Emperor may certainly feel sure of the people.

As a consequence of this state of affairs there is now a real political tranquillity in France. All the factions that in the past have agitated the country are in existence still, but they have lost that confidence of the people that was the only element of their power. Whether they are Bourbons or republicans it is the same. France, sure of what she has, and satisfied with it, will not give it up for the splendid promises of any of the parties that have led her such a horrible dance since she first cast down the Bourbons. This is the declaration she makes every time she elects a candidate known to sustain the government. This is more emphatically still the declaration she has made in this last election, because it follows so closely upon those more than usually bold arrangements of the government that have been heard in the Chamber of Deputies this winter. The old Bourbon oppression had become so bad that the nation was compelled to get rid of it, and in the exertions of getting rid of it she lost her equilibrium. That lost equilibrium of a nation could not be regained at once, and France staggered and reeled through all the moods of trouble—the Jacobins, the Directory, the Consulate, the Empire, the Bourbons, the Republic; through all these she went and was in trouble still, but now she is firmly on her feet again and will stay there; however the Reds promise something better and the rhetoricians declaim against the Empire.

France is the more ready to stay as she is, because she believes that she can change her condition whenever she desires it. She believes she can do this because she possesses universal suffrage; and in this way also universal suffrage adds a vast strength to the empire, since it has educated the people to believe that it is the creature of their own will and has gotten them into the habit of endorsing it every now and then. That is a habit that only the greatest possible errors on the part of the Emperor can change; for France is not sickle, though her history following the Revolution has made her seem so. Nothing less than the vices of the Bourbons could have induced her to cast them out, and changeable as she seemed in the many mutations she subsequently passed through, she would have seemed a great deal worse if she had quietly accepted any one of those many bad systems.

It has been argued that the elections in France are not fair expressions of the popular sentiment because they are so largely controlled by government influences, direct and indirect. This argument may hold in Europe, but cannot here, where we are familiar with the whole machinery of elections and know exactly how little can be effected by organization in influencing the choice of the people.

In view of the history of France she cannot be accused of moral or physical cowardice. She is neither so timid as to fear the displeasure of government agents, nor is she to be controlled by the presence of bayonets. We must accept the decision arrived at by universal suffrage as the real voice of the people, and the great fact of the present condition of France is that that voice is now overwhelmingly in favor of the empire.

Lottery Managers—State and United States Laws.

We called the attention of the Attorney General of the State a few days since to the decision of Judge Nelson in the Massachusetts liquor case, which arose under the provisions of the Internal Revenue law, and pointed to that decree as a precedent for him to enforce the laws of this State in regard to the lottery policy business. We again urge upon him the duty of enforcing the law and seeing that the statute is not violated with impunity under his own nose. He can very easily ascertain who have been violating the lottery statute by referring to the records in the offices of the different collectors of internal revenue, where the lottery ticket vendors have filed their licenses under the law of Congress. There is a special provision in the Internal Revenue law which declares that no license provided for in that act, if granted, shall be held or construed to exempt from the penalty provided by State laws for carrying on the trade, or to authorize a business prohibited by State laws. Nothing could be plainer than this provision. It leaves no room for doubt as to the duty of the legal officer of the State in the premises. This provision is based upon a well established principle—that the Legislatures of the several States have the right to enact laws regulating all classes of business which are injurious to the public morals. It is on this principle that the enactments in relation to gambling, concert saloons, liquor traffic and lottery policies are based. They all more or less affect the public morals, the peace and quiet of society, and legitimately come under the jurisdiction of the State Legislatures. The lottery business is declared unlawful by a statute of the State of New York, and every person who has taken out a license is liable under it. It is said that there are some six hundred lottery ticket vendors in this city, all obtaining their licenses under the bonds of the managers of the lotteries. They are carrying on an illegal business and are amenable under the laws of the State. The ticket vendors and their bondsmen, the managers, should be at once arraigned as a warning in the future.

The clause in the Internal Revenue law under which the revenue collectors grant these licenses was inserted by a piece of sharp practice, in which it is reported that Pendleton, of Ohio, and Senator Morrill, of Maine, were the prominent operators. The affair having been called to the attention of the committee of Congress engaged in revising the tax law, it was supposed that they would amend the obnoxious provisions, so as not to give the policy dealers an opportunity to take out licenses in those States where the business is illegal under the State laws, or at least that some person or persons besides the lottery managers should give bonds as security against frauds under the law. This has not been done by the bill recently reported by the committee. The provision in the present law governing this matter is as follows:—

That no license shall hereafter issue until the managers of a lottery now existing shall give bonds in the sum of one thousand dollars; that the persons receiving such license shall not sell any ticket or supplementary ticket of such lottery which has not been duly stamped according to law.

The Ways and Means Committee of the present Congress have thrown those words in together, and given them a shake up, and in the new Internal Revenue bill reported a few days since the provision has come out in the following language:—

That the managers of any lottery shall give bonds in the sum of one thousand dollars; that the person paying such tax shall not sell any ticket or supplementary ticket of such lottery which has not been duly stamped according to law.

This looks very much like a distinction without a difference. The public anticipated that the moment the attention of Congress was called to this question the evil would be remedied. But the action of the committee shows that they are to be disappointed and that the necessary modification must be made, if at all, in the Committee of the Whole. It is evident that some person has been elbowing the committee, and it is rumored that S. S. Cox has taken the place of Pendleton in this business.

There is evidently a "nigger" in this woodpile. We cannot account on any other hypothesis for the fact that the radicals adhere so tenaciously to the idea that none but the bonds of the managers of the lotteries shall be received as security. Now, why is it that the radicals in Congress prefer Ben Wood and his associates as security in this business to such men as Vanderbilt, Law, Moses Taylor, A. T. Stewart, or any of that class of capitalists and business men? There must be some cause for this great preference for Ben Wood and other lottery managers, or there would not be such marked determination to insist that the bonds of no other persons should be taken as security against the violation of the law. There have been several vague rumors about for the last three or four months about Ben Wood working in the interest of the radicals during the war under a mutual understanding, and that this lottery clause in the Internal Revenue law was his share of the profits of the alliance. The efforts of the present committee in Congress to substantially retain this provision gives some color to these stories, to say the least. But it is not too late yet for Congress to remedy the evil, and we urge upon them the importance of radically changing the law in this respect. In the meantime let the Attorney General of the State and the courts here attend to the violation of the statutes of this State.

ELVEN MILLIONS FOR THE FREEDMEN'S BUREAU.

Upon the estimates of General Howard, Chief of the Freedmen's Bureau, it appears that an item of eleven millions of dollars for the expenses of that establishment for the ensuing year has been reported in one of the appropriation bills before Congress. This is within two millions of the whole expenses of the government under John Quincy Adams. What tremendous strides we have made, to be sure, in expenditures and taxes since then, and especially since the late rebellion, when an appropriation in Congress of eleven millions is regarded as a mere incidental item in the way of charity. It must be given, however, it is urged, or a much larger number of destitute Southern whites than suffering blacks, dependent upon this bureau, will be apt to perish from hunger or nakedness. This may be true, to some extent, and yet we fear that

this almsgiving Federal bureau operates more to encourage idleness than to relieve deserving objects of charity. Unquestionably the bureau is an establishment foreign to the purposes and functions of the general government, and a sort of *imperium in imperio* over the several States concerned, inconsistent with the restoration of peace and the late rebel States to the exercise of their local attributes. It seems to us, moreover, that this bureau, with the thousands of able-bodied blacks and whites under its control, ought to be able, from their labor, to pay its current expenses by this time. We hope that this proposed appropriation, at all events, will be thoroughly sifted before it is passed by the House. Retrenchment is the first essential if we would lighten the burdens of the general taxation and save the Treasury.

The Rebel Cotton Loan—The Last Kick of the English Bondholders.

The letter of the Secretary of State to the Secretary of the Treasury, which we published this morning, in reference to the relief of the distressed English bondholders of the rebel cotton loan and to certain proposed new English loans to "the cotton and tobacco States" of the South, under the management of George McHenry, of London, and said rebel bondholders and others, will be found to be a very curious and an entirely satisfactory State paper.

It embraces a synopsis of the contents of certain papers referred to Mr. Seward by direction of the President and the Secretary's passing remarks and final conclusion thereon. These papers include, first, a letter (March 10, 1865) to the President from the English bondholders of said rebel cotton loan. Second—A letter, same date, from the same parties to Governor Orr, of South Carolina. Third—A letter, same date, from the same parties, to Hugh McCulloch, Secretary of the Treasury. Fourth and fifth—Two letters from George McHenry, April 10, to the Secretary of the Treasury. The objects sought by these parties are: First, a copy of the contract between Erlanger & Co., of Paris, and the late rebel government of the so-called Confederate States, which, it is supposed, is in the possession of our government, with other documents on the subject; and secondly, the continuance or consent of the United States to certain new loans proposed to be raised in England, to the extent of \$20,000,000, for the re-development of our Southern industry in cotton, tobacco, &c. The English bondholders of the rebel cotton loan (some \$13,000,000) think that if they can get those documents of the said contract they may yet be able to squeeze some money out of Erlanger & Co.; and that if our government will give its moral support to those proposed new Southern loans, the parties concerned in giving the South a liberal helping hand will give increased value to Northern State and federal securities. Best of all, these Confederate-English bondholders think that through these new loans they may, after awhile, get something from the generosity of the Southern States upon those aforesaid rebel cotton bonds.

Mr. George McHenry is the inflexible financier of the English holders of these rebel cotton bonds in these arrangements. They have great faith in his surpassing financial wisdom and patriotism, and he has great faith in himself. The Secretary of State, however, after summing up their case, very coolly knocks Mr. McHenry on the head, as a fire-eating rebel pamphlet writer and financier in England during the late war, and then says that in his opinion "neither the nature of these several communications, nor the matters discussed therein, nor the form in which they are therein treated, nor the character of their authors, nor that of their agent (McHenry) is such as to deserve consideration on the part of the government of the United States." This being sufficient for the occasion, the Secretary has no more to say.

Thus, then, ends the speculation of those English investments in that famous rebel cotton loan. Their thirteen millions of dollars put into this business have gone up in a balloon. Erlanger & Co., of Paris, and M. Erlanger's hopeful father-in-law, Shidell, are supposed to have made a good thing of it. Laird & Co., the shipbuilders of the Alabama, Shenandoah, and those rebel rams, got a good share of the money, but upon the whole were losers, and the capture of Jeff Davis spoiled their calculations of millions of profits. Rebel "Confederate cotton" at twelve cents a pound, when it commanded from fifty to sixty in England, was a temptation which John Bull could not resist, with the conviction that the Southern confederacy was a sure thing. Now we presume that with the cool dismissal of McHenry the unfortunate Britishers will hardly hesitate to exchange those rebel "Confederate cotton" loan bonds for Confederate scrip, and this, no doubt, will still be furnished them on application by Erlanger & Co., or John Shidell, or, peradventure, by Jake Thompson or the Hon. Ben Wood.

City Intelligence.

POLICE STATISTICS FOR THE QUARTER ENDING MAY 1.—The following table shows some interesting police statistics for the quarter ending May 1, 1866.—Property recovered and restored to owners, \$25,565; money taken from prisoners and lodgers for safe keeping and restored to them, \$3,286; complaints (for violation of Corporation ordinances) against city railroad cars, car drivers, hackmen, expressmen, second hand dealers and intelligence office keepers, 10,250.

CONVICTING THE ORDER OF DEACONS.—In St. Thomas' free chapel Bishop Potter yesterday admitted to the order of deacons Mr. Thomas Mendenhall, long and favorably known as a minister among the Wesleyans. The sermon was preached by Rev. Dr. Morgan, who also presented the candidate, and the Bishop was assisted in the communion and other services by Rev. Dr. Johnson, of the Seminary of the Free Church, Tennessee, and Rev. Messrs. W. J. Walker and T. H. Hill, of Trinity chapel, and F. H. Hill, of St. Thomas' free chapel. The chapel looked finely, having been recently renovated. The congregation, together with the ladies and clergy, bade the newly ordained deacons a hearty God speed.

MEETING OF THE FARMERS' CLUB OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE.—The club met yesterday afternoon at the Cooper Institute, Professor S. D. Williams being in the chair. A communication from W. R. Price, of Flushing, L. I., giving directions for planting seeds, was read. A new improved farm gate was exhibited by Mr. C. T. Smith, of Nyack, Rockland county, N. Y. It is a double gate, which can be used as a single one by lowering the middle post. This post is seen on the ground, and a four inch hinge the size of the post is attached to it. A communication from O. R. Howe, of Middletown, N. Y., was read. He inquired of the club why some of his lambs are born with a lump or bump on the throat, varying from the size of a large bean to that of an egg. This lump grows around the windpipe and gullet, and is something like the growth of the club-foot. This swelling was the effect of pox. After discussing the subjects of other communications received by the secretary, the club adjourned until Tuesday next.

Oswego Canal Open.

The Oswego Canal is in good navigable condition, and the boats are passing freely.

The Battle Flag of the Philadelphia Volunteers.

HARRISBURG, Pa., May 1, 1866. Governor Curtin has issued a general order for the companies to be observed on the return of the standards of the Pennsylvania Volunteers, at Independence square, Philadelphia, on the Fourth of July.